

CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 21 and 31.

Please amend claims 18 and 29 as follows.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring data that maintains data integrity, the method comprising:

setting metadata associated with the data to indicate initiation of a transfer of the data;

transferring the data from a data system to a file system;

determining whether the transfer of the data was successful; [and]

setting the metadata to indicate the successful transfer in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was successful;

setting the metadata to indicate initiation of a deletion of the data;

deleting the data;

determining whether the deletion of the data was successful; and

setting the metadata to indicate the successful deletion in response to the determination that the deletion of the data was successful.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising transferring the data from the data system to the file system in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising initiating an error handling process in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising deleting the data in response to the determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising initiating an error handling process in response to the determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

receiving the data into the data system from an external source; and
ensuring the integrity of the data in the data system.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate a state of the data.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate copies of the data.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising processing the metadata to determine where the copies of the data resides.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising using filters when transferring the data.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring data that maintains data integrity, the system comprising:

a file system;

a data system configured to transfer the data to the file system and delete the data;

and

a management system configured to set metadata associated with the data to indicate initiation of a transfer of the data, determine whether the transfer of the data was successful, [and] set the metadata to indicate a successful transfer in response to a positive determination that the transfer of the data was successful, set the metadata to indicate initiation of a deletion of the data, determine whether the deletion of the data was successful, and set the metadata to indicate the successful deletion in response to a positive determination that the deletion of the data was successful.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to transfer the data to the file system in response to the determination that the transfer of the data was unsuccessful.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to delete the data in response to the determination that the deletion of the data was unsuccessful.

33. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the data system is configured to receive the data from an external source and ensure the integrity of the data.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate a state of the data.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the metadata comprises a state flag that indicate copies of the data.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the management system is configured to process the metadata to determine where the copies of the data resides.